

Submitter: CHARLA LOWER

On Behalf Of: Wallowology

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

Hello thank you for supporting the bill to help beavers help us in the Beaver State. Our country used to be a much wetter place thanks to beavers. The wetlands they create act as a fire break, provide habitat for endangered fish and create a safe place for ungulates birds and many other species to forage. I am part of the Beaver Working Group of NE, OR and it is our aim to have the laws in OR changed so that beavers do not continue to be allowed to be killed by trappers, farmers, ranchers, ODOT etc. They are not a varmint but are ECOSYSTEM ENGINEERS. We would like to see beavers return to the low gradient streams they used to inhabit and act as a response team to ODOT, Ranchers, City officials etc. to install hardware to allow the beavers to remain and flourish without creating flooding. We can co-exist with beavers and should. We need to follow in the State of Washingtons footsteps and protect beavers from being slaughtered indiscriminately and allow them to do their thing which will help us more than we can now imagine. After all, we are the Beaver State and most people have never seen a beaver because of our laws allowing them to be killed without any protection. Thank you, Charla Lower